

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 27, 2003 LB 46, 208

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay. Well, let me ask you another question. LB 46 I think is aimed at another important issue. That is...well, very simply, prison overcrowding and that sort of thing. How does...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...how does this approach of increasing penalties or even adding new penalties, some of them involving either additional time in incarceration or perhaps a new reason to be incarcerated, how does this fit with the goals of LB 46?

SENATOR KRUSE: Well, you may accuse me of being an idealist. And that...I'm willing to be called that. I think we will have fewer people in prison if we make it clear what's going to happen, we're very, very consistent in our application of it. It's just like vehicle confiscation. I really don't expect that to happen, but I expect some persons to change their behavior because of it.

SENATOR RAIKES: So you're arguing that increasing the sentence may actually reduce the amount of time people spend in prison?

SENATOR KRUSE: It makes it clear we take it seriously, and we've not made that clear so far.

SPEAKER BROMM: Time.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you. Senator Dwite Pedersen. Just a second, Senator Dwite Pedersen. I'm sorry. (Visitors introduced.) And I'm sorry, Senator Pedersen. You'll get your chance. But we have an amendment to the amendment that is on the Clerk's desk. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Kruse would move to amend the committee amendments with AM1053. (Legislative Journal page 1077)

SPEAKER BROMM Senator Kruse, you're recognized to open on your